

no room for apologies for lack of preparation. We cannot afford to spend five, ten or twenty dollars to listen to apologies. Those placed on the program should see to it that they *are* prepared when the time comes, or resign in favor of those who will prepare for the occasion. It will take less time to present one's thoughts on paper, as all superfluous words and unnecessary coloring are likely to be left out. It avoids repetition. One is not likely to write the same thing over three or four times; there is no occasion for it; his next thought is before him. But above all we need the literature. It is here where we get or ought to get the very best talent, and is it right that it should be lost after three or four hundred of our people have heard it? Why not have it in a form that will enable us to give it to the thousands who have not heard it? We are greatly in need of a better, a stronger literature, and here is an opportunity to add, at least a little, to that which is entirely too meagre in the Brethren church. Perhaps it is said that in "off hand" addresses there is an enthusiasm which is otherwise lost. Grant it, but let us have the educational first, then the enthusiasm. Let these papers be followed by short addresses that will stir the emotions, touch the feelings, bring the whole being, body, soul and spirit into action. We need the enthusiasm, but we need instruction first, education then inspiration, knowledge then power. May the Holy Spirit so guide us that our coming conference may prove one of great enlightenment, education and spiritual power in the Brethren church.

Personal Mention

Brother Summers reports two accessions at College Corner, Ind.

Please do not fail to read the article in this issue on "The Conference," by Brother Gillin.

Mrs. A. D. Gnagey, wife of the editor, is at Elk Lick, Pa., by the bedside of her mother who has been quite ill for sometime.

Brother John Kurtz orders a copy of the Brethren Quarterly, and adds that it suits him much better than Cook's, which is being used in the school there.

We failed to make mention of the fact that on June 5, Brother Tombaugh preached both morning and evening at the Fairview church, and received one into the church by baptism.

Brother J. C. Ewing, whose name is familiar to many of our readers, spent Monday night with the editor's family. He is here in the interests of a Normal school of music which will open at Ashland, July 12.

Brother Miller and wife returned from Hiram, O., last Friday afternoon, having completed their course at that school. Brother Miller preached a very acceptable sermon Sabbath morning in the college chapel.

Brother Talley recently visited the congregation at Garrison, Iowa, conducting communion services and ordaining Brother Hoover to the full eldership in the Brethren church. Brother Hoover is now pastor of that church.

For particulars about Ashland School, write to this office, or to E. J. Worst, Ashland, O. Announcements later.

Notes and Comments

Dull Sermons.—Why are some sermons dull? Because the preacher is dull, he has failed in his preparatory work. But the preacher is not always to blame. Sometimes a church spoils its appetite by dainties. For such there is thought for fruitful meditation in the following:

Neither Can We. The *Herald and Presbyterian* says:

We do not see how a man can discharge intelligently the duties of an officer of the church, in any denomination, who does not take and read a paper devoted to the interests of his church.

Work for God. The Christian worker will find something helpful and inspiring in these words from Rev. C. H. Parkhurst:

Do not expect immediate results. Immediate results are not worth working for. History is long, and is slow; but the clock keeps ticking, and the brook keeps flowing. Do something, and do it in a straight line, and if you do not at last get to finish it, God will top it out, or get some one to. Very likely your own inspiring activity will be just the influence that will create the discipleship that will take up the work and carry to completion the enterprise which you inaugurated; something as the quickening spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ endowed the Twelve with the power and wisdom to complete what their ascended Lord but began.

Where He Belongs. Hypocrites are not all in the church. In proportion there are more of them in the world than in the church, and yet it is this character whose association the sinner dreads so much that he feels justified in remaining out in the world. The truth is the hypocrite belongs there too, for he is not a Christian but a sinner. The following from the *Pittsburg Christian Advocate* is well said and to the point:

A hypocrite is not a Christian, but a counterfeit. Christianity is not responsible for him. What he may do is not to be charged to its account. In fact, he is a sinner, and that class is responsible for him. They who belong to it must not point to him as an evidence of the failure of religion. He is rather an evidence of the corruption which is in the world. He is a sinner of the deepest dye, seeking to pass himself off for a Christian. Let the world make note of this, and stand sponsor for its own children.

Ready to Give. If there is one thing with which people are liberal it is with their advice. They are always ready and willing to give—one wonders sometimes that they have any of that commodity left in stock, but it seems to be one of those peculiar things, which the more one gives, the more he has to give. Nothing is more freely given than advice, never "grudgingly," but not always as God has prospered. Just now thousands are advising the President how to carry on the war with Spain. Perhaps the words of Abraham Lincoln would have a measure of appropriateness for a certain class in these days. To a delegation who called on him to advise about the conduct of the war, he said:

Gentlemen, suppose all the property you were worth was in gold, and you had put it in the hands of Blondin to carry across Niagara river on a rope, would you shake the cable, or keep shouting out to him: "Blondin, stand up a little straighter; Blondin, stoop a little more; go a little faster; lean a little more to the north; lean a little more to the south?" No, you would hold your breath, as well as your tongue, and keep your hands off until he was safe over. The government officials are carrying an immense weight. Untold treasures are in their hands. They are doing the very best they can. Don't badger them. Keep silence, and we'll get you safe across.

NORMAL MUSIC SCHOOL

The Ohio Normal Music School will hold its summer session of 1898 at Ashland, beginning July 12, and continuing four weeks. Mr. N. Coe Stewart and Mr. N. L. Glover, the principals, are teachers of national reputation, and the holding of this school in our midst affords a splendid opportunity for first class instruction at our doors. The singing in our churches would receive an impetus if a number of our choristers and singers would come to Ashland and attend this school. There will be classes in Music Reading, Voice Culture, Study of Pieces such as Glees, Choruses and Oratorios, Harmony and Composition and private lessons in Voice and Piano. Tuition for all the classes for the term \$10.00. For further particulars address J. C. EWING, Ashland, O.

Program Elkhart Co. Union Meeting

To be held at Mt. Union, Saturday and Sunday, July 9 and 10, 1898.

SATURDAY, 9:30 A. M.

Song service and devotional services led by sister E. A. Early.

Sermon, Rev. A. R. Bemenderfer.

Paper, What dangers Threaten the Efficiency of the Brethren Church? Ezra Leedy. Discussion in general.

Written reports of the churches and auxiliary societies to be prepared by the secretaries, also election of officers.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 1:30 P. M.

Song and praise service led by Rev. L. A. Hazlet.

Paper, In what Way can the K. C. be Helpful to the Local Church? Daisy Riggles. Discussion, Mary Metzger.

Paper, The Model Sunday-school Teacher by Ida Simmonds. Discussion, Rev. L. O. Hubbard.

Paper, Work of the S. S. C. E. by Lizzie Fisher. Discussion, Mrs. J. A. Riley.

The harvest offering to be taken.

EVENING SESSION, 7:30 P. M.

Communion service.

SUNDAY

10:30—Sermon, Rev. L. A. Hazlet.

7:30—Sermon, Rev. A. S. Menaugh.

A cordial invitation is extended to all by the members of the Mt. Union church to share their hospitality. Come, can we not awaken? The harvest is great and the laborers are few.

MRS. E. A. EARLY.

Program committee: A. R. Bemenderfer, Aaron Mill, Eli Fisher.

CATARRH CANNOT BE CURED

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, price 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.